

Message Text

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ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 OIC-02 COME-00 DOTE-00
EB-07 FMC-01 CG-00 DLOS-09 ERDA-05 INT-05 CEQ-01
EPA-01 TRSE-00 AF-10 ARA-06 NEA-10 /142 W
-----070752Z 093744 /16

P R 070706Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8396
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY LONDON

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DEPARTMENT PASS TO DOT

LONDON FOR SHIPPING ATTACHE

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EWWT, IMCO, UR
SUBJECT: ADMINISTRATION INITIATIVE ON MARINE OIL POLLUTION:
DELEGATION VISIT TO USSR

1. SUMMARY: US DELEGATION MET WITH SOVIET DEPUTY MINISTER OF
MERCHANT MARINE AND RANKING SUBORDINATES AT MINISTRY OF MERCHANT
MARINE JUNE 3 FOR COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF U.S. INITIATIVES,
DISCUSSION OF IMCO PROGRESS TO DATE, AND ELICITING SOVIET
REACTIONS AND CONCERNS. ATMOSPHERE OF DISCUSSIONS WAS POSITIVE
AND AMICABLE THROUGHOUT. U.S. DELEGATION CONSIDERS THE MEETINGS
WERE EXTREMELY USEFUL AND IS OPTIMISTIC THAT SOVIET COOPERATION
CAN BE MAINTAINED. END SUMMARY.

2. U.S. DELEGATION MET FOR 7 HOURS FRIDAY JUNE 3 WITH SOVIET
REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MINISTRY OF MERCHANT MARINE, INCLUDING
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DEPUTY MINISTER ANATOLY S. KOLESNITCHENCO, DEPUTY DIRECTOR
ANATOLY ANDREYEV (FOREIGN RELATIONS DEPARTMENT), DEPUTY DIRECTOR
ALEXANDER MOROSOV (GENERAL TECHNICAL MANAGER), AND DEPUTY
DIRECTOR MATOV (ADMINISTRATION OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY). U.S.
DELEGATION WALLACE, DIAMANTI, AND LAKELY ACCOMPANIED AND ASSISTED
BY SCIENCE COUNSELOR ALLEN GREENBERG, WHO ALSO HOSTED RECEPTION
AT HIS RESIDENCE THAT WAS WELL ATTENDED BY SOVIET PARTICIPANTS.

3. AT THE TECHNICAL MEETING IN THE MORNING WALLACE EXPLAINED THE U.S. PROPOSALS AND THE SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS IN IMCO WHICH SHOULD DO THE PREPARATORY WORK FOR THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF FEBRUARY 1978. HE EXPLAINED THE COAST GUARD'S NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE MAKING OF MAY 16, 1977, AND DESCRIBED THE PROVISIONS OF SENATE BILL S.682 AS IT WAS REPORTED BY COMMERCE COMMITTEE. HE EMPHASIZED THAT BOTH THE PROPOSED RULES AND S.682, IN ITS PRESENT FORM, ARE CONSISTENT WITH THE PRESIDENT'S PROPOSALS, AS PRESENTED TO IMCO BY SECRETARY ADAMS ON MAY 23. HE EMPHASIZED THAT USG IS SEEKING IN GOOD FAITH FOR A GLOBAL SOLUTION TO THE GLOBAL PROBLEM OF TANKER-SOURCE POLLUTION.

4. SOVIET TECHNICAL EXPERTS HAD "DONE THEIR HOMEWORK" AND WERE QUITE WELL INFORMED ON U.S. PROPOSALS. THEIR CONCERNS OVER S.682 WERE BASED ON AN EARLIER VERSION OF THE BILL AND ON CONGRESSIONAL RECORD OF HEARINGS. THESE CONCERNS WERE SUBSTANTIALLY ABATED BY WALLACE'S DESCRIPTION OF THE ALTERNATIVES AND MODIFICATIONS CLAUSES, AND HIS ASSURANCE THAT THE AUTHORITY GRANTED TO THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION IN S.682 WAS INTENDED TO BE USED TO REVISE THE LEGISLATIVE STANDARDS TO CONFORM TO INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS RATIFIED BY THE U.S.

5. INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS WERE CONTINUED DURING LUNCH, HOSTED BY THE USSR REPRESENTATIVES. THE AFTERNOON SESSION WAS JOINED BY THE DEPUTY MINISTER, WHO BROUGHT WITH HIM TECHNICIANS FROM THE SHIP-BUILDING DEPARTMENT OF THE MINISTRY.

6. DEPUTY MINISTER KOLESNITCHENKO SAID THE USSR HAD A "POSITIVE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ATTITUDE" ON THE U.S. PROPOSALS, BUT NOTED THAT THUS FAR THE PROPOSALS WERE "TOO GENERAL". HE SAID THE USSR DELEGATION WOULD HAVE A MORE DETAILED RESPONSE AFTER CONSIDERATION OF THE MORE SPECIFIC PROPOSALS TO BE MADE AT IMCO.

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TRSE-00 AF-10 ARA-06 NEA-10 PM-04 H-01 L-03
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7. ON THE BASIS OF THEIR QUESTIONS AND OBSERVATIONS, THE USSR DELEGATES HAVE CONCERNS, OR MAY HAVE PROBLEMS, WITH THE FOLLOWING:

- (1) THE RATIONALE FOR APPLYING THE CONSTRUCTION AND EQUIPMENT STANDARDS TO A LOWER LIMIT OF 20,000 DWT;
- (2) THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION'S USE OF DISCRETION TO REVISE STANDARDS UNDER S.682;
- (3) THE NEED FOR CONCRETE SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE BACKUP RADAR WITH COLLISION AVOIDANCE EQUIPMENT;

ALSO OF CONCERN WAS THE USE OF 10,000 GR TONS FOR THIS PROPOSAL;

- (4) THE LORAN-C NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE-MAKING OF JAN 31, 1977

- (5) WHAT DOCUMENTS OR PROPOSALS WILL SERVE AS THE BASIS FOR THE WORKING GROUP'S DISCUSSION OF CONSTRUCTION AND EQUIPMENT STANDARDS.

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- (6) THE APPARENT INCOMPATIBILITY OF THE POLICY BEHIND PROMULGATING THE JANUARY 31, 1977 NAVIGATION SAFETY RULES (UNILATERALLY) WITH THE PRESENTATION TO IMCO OF THE MARCH 17 PROPOSALS.

8. THE ARRANGEMENTS MADE BY, AND THE SUPPORT PROVIDED TO THE DELEGATION BY THE OFFICE OF THE SCIENCE COUNSELOR IN EMBASSY MOSCOW WERE OUTSTANDING. COUNSELOR ALLEN GREENBERG AND SHAWN BYRNES SPARED NO EFFORT IN TRYING TO MAKE THE VISIT SUCCESSFUL. U.S. DELEGATION FEELS CONFIDENT THAT ANY QUESTIONS WHICH SOVIETS MAY HAVE CAN BE HANDLED BY COMMUNICATIONS THROUGH THE EMBASSY.

9. COMMENT: AS IN THE PREVIOUSLY VISITED CAPITALS, THE USSR REPRESENTATIVES START FROM A POSITIVE ATTITUDE AND SUPPORT IN

PRINCIPLE THE AIMS OF THE U.S. PROPOSALS. THEY WILL HAVE SOME
RESERVATIONS, MOST LIKELY ON THE APPLICATION OF THE STANDARDS
TO THE LOWER END OF THE 20,000 DWT LIMIT, BUT THEY APPRECIATED
THE VISIT AND GAVE EVERY INDICATION THAT THEY WANTED TO CONTINUE
TO COOPERATE WITH US SO FAR AS POSSIBLE.
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Message Attributes

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